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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION OF

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THOMAS HASSKERL, ET AL. : ATTN: APPLICATION DIVISION

SERIAL NO: NEW U.S. APPLICATION

(BASED ON PCT/EP03/05278)

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PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS ALEXANDRIA, VIRGINIA 22313

SIR:

FOR:

Prior to examination on the merits, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 6 of this paper.